

Homemade Puzzles

Chinese Torture Solution

First, identify the sides: hold the box as in fig. 1. One side shows all four edges, and the opposite side is the same. One is the top, the other is the base. To identify which is which, the small panel on both sides can move, but only the larger panel on the top can move-the larger panel on the base cannot move yet.

The other four sides are overlapped at one end.

The small panels can move about 1/4" on all the sides except the back, which can only move 1/8".

The larger panels on all sides can move 1/8" or 1/4".

Now follow the figures below, making sure to hold the box the right way. Start with the top.

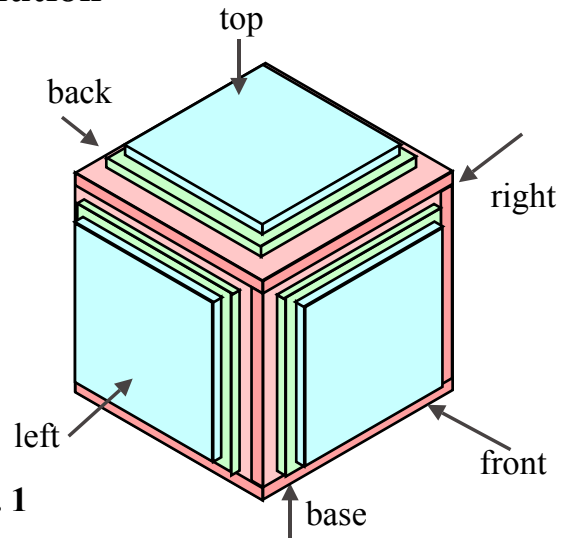


Fig. 1

Note: when you see "halfway", it means don't move that piece as far as it will go, only halfway.

The small outer panels can move independently of the larger panels, but when the larger panels move, they take the smaller panel with them.

1. Move the top smaller panel halfway to the right.
2. Move the top larger panel halfway towards the back.
3. Move the left smaller panel halfway towards the back.
4. Move the left larger panel halfway towards the top.
5. Move the front smaller panel halfway towards the top.
6. Move the front larger panel all the way towards the left.
7. Move the right smaller panel halfway towards the top.
8. Move the right larger panel all the way towards the front.
9. Move the back small panel all the way towards the top.
10. Move the back larger panel all the way towards the right.
11. Move the base smaller panel halfway towards the right.
12. Move the base larger panel all the way towards the back.
13. Pull the larger panel outwards: box open.

Some things to remember.

If you move the right panel first, you cannot make the top panel's first move!

If you move the back panel first, you cannot make the top panel's second move!

If you move the top panel too far on it's first move, you cannot make the front panel's first move!

If you move the top panel too far on it's second move, you cannot make the back panel's first move!

If you move the left panel too far on it's first move, you cannot make the backpanel's first move!

If you move the left panel too far on it's second move, you cannot make the front panel's second move!

All of these moves will prevent you from removing the panel from the base.

This is the only panel that can be removed.

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